

five from 10.v. to 2.vi.1993, about four from 13.v. to 2.vi.1994 and about ten from 30.v. to mid-June 1995. A record from Tresta, Mainland on 9.vi.1992 was in the porch of a house and had obviously been reared indoors. This may also explain a record from Gutcher, Yell at the end of April 1993. Autumn migrants are rarer (witness the absence of any late records on Fair Isle) but there were records at Skaw, Unst on 21.ix.1991, Sumburgh, Mainland on 5.ix.1992 and two at Sumburgh on 4.x.1992, the latter amongst a large influx of Red Admirals *Vanessa atalanta* (L.). In 1995 about 20 were recorded in early September during a period of obvious Lepidoptera immigration.

Immigration is probably necessary to maintain the breeding population in Shetland, as is believed to be the case in Orkney (Lorimer, 1983. *The Lepidoptera of the Orkney Islands*. Classey) and Aberdeenshire (M. Young, *pers. comm.*). Although immigration of Large Whites is hard to establish as discussed, immigration of other butterflies has been good in most years since at least 1990, suggesting that the recent increase in Large Whites may be due to recruitment into the population.

As already mentioned the Large White does breed in Shetland's neighbouring archipelago to the south in Orkney. To the north, in Faroe, it is very rare, with only two records, both in the exceptionally fine weather of spring 1992 (Kaaber, *pers. comm.*).

I would like to thank the following for comments and records: C. Donald, A. Gear, P. Harvey, Dr S. Kaaber, R. Leverton, F. Ratter, N. Riddiford, T. Rogers, D. Suddaby and M. Young.— M.G. PENNINGTON, Shetland Entomological Group, 9 Daisy Park, Baltasound, Unst, Shetland ZE2 9EA.

The Orache Moth *Trachea atriplicis* (Lep.: Noctuidae): a notable Wirral capture

I was recently asked by Ian Rutherford, the author of *Macro-moths in Cheshire 1961 to 1993*, to confirm the identity of a specimen of the above species taken in mid-July 1995 at Irby by Mr Tom Paxton in his m.v. trap. Skinner (1984, *Colour identification guide for moths of the British Isles*. Viking), states it has not been recorded in this country since 1915. However, Bernard Skinner has recently informed me that since the publication of his book he now has a few records from some south-east counties for the period 1986 to 1994. As far as I am aware this record for the Orache Moth is the most northern one we have for the UK. I am sure Bernard would welcome any other recent records.

Copies of Ian Rutherford's *Macro-moths in Cheshire 61 to 93* published by the Lancashire and Cheshire Entomological Society can be obtained from my address below, priced £8.00.— ALAN CREASER, 68 Bridgenorth Road, Pensby, Wirral L61 8SJ.